
National Park Service
Cultural Landscapes Inventory
2013



Saint-Gaudens NHS Landscape
Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site

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Inventory Summary

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Purpose and Goals of the CLI

The Cultural Landscapes Inventory (CLI), a comprehensive inventory of all cultural landscapes in the national park system, is one of the most ambitious initiatives of the National Park Service (NPS) Park Cultural Landscapes Program. The CLI is an evaluated inventory of all landscapes having historical significance that are listed on or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places, or are otherwise managed as cultural resources through a public planning process and in which the NPS has or plans to acquire any legal interest. The CLI identifies and documents each landscape's location, size, physical development, condition, landscape characteristics, character-defining features, as well as other valuable information useful to park management. Cultural landscapes become approved CLIs when concurrence with the findings is obtained from the park superintendent and all required data fields are entered into a national database. In addition, for landscapes that are not currently listed on the National Register and/or do not have adequate documentation, concurrence is required from the State Historic Preservation Officer or the Keeper of the National Register.

The CLI, like the List of Classified Structures, assists the NPS in its efforts to fulfill the identification and management requirements associated with Section 110(a) of the National Historic Preservation Act, National Park Service Management Policies (2006), and Director's Order #28: Cultural Resource Management. Since launching the CLI nationwide, the NPS, in response to the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA), is required to report information that respond to NPS strategic plan accomplishments. Two GPRA goals are associated with the CLI: bringing certified cultural landscapes into good condition (Goal 1a7) and increasing the number of CLI records that have complete, accurate, and reliable information (Goal 1b2B).

Scope of the CLI

The information contained within the CLI is gathered from existing secondary sources found in park libraries and archives and at NPS regional offices and centers, as well as through on-site reconnaissance of the existing landscape. The baseline information collected provides a comprehensive look at the historical development and significance of the landscape, placing it in context of the site's overall significance. Documentation and analysis of the existing landscape identifies character-defining characteristics and features, and allows for an evaluation of the landscape's overall integrity and an assessment of the landscape's overall condition. The CLI also provides an illustrative site plan that indicates major features within the inventory unit. Unlike cultural landscape reports, the CLI does not provide management recommendations or

treatment guidelines for the cultural landscape.

Inventory Unit Description:

The 190.75-acre Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site (NHS) is located within the Town of Cornish, in Sullivan County, New Hampshire. The park preserves and interprets properties associated with Augustus Saint-Gaudens (1848-1907), America's foremost sculptor of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Saint-Gaudens NHS is set in a countryside of dispersed farms, fields, and woodlots that are spread across the hills of the Connecticut River valley. The surrounding landscape retains the rural character that attracted and inspired Saint-Gaudens and other artists associated with the famous Cornish Colony. The only national park site in New Hampshire, it is one of only two in the national park system dedicated to a visual artist.

The Saint-Gaudens NHS Landscape is comprised of four component landscapes situated along the east bank of the river and extending eastward across State Route 12A. Saint-Gaudens's home and studios, named Aspet, forms the core of the park and consists of 101.65 acres of meadow and woodland that frame pristine views of Mt. Ascutney in Vermont. Aspet is accessed by Saint Gaudens Road, which originates at SR 12A, and contains a cluster of buildings used by Saint-Gaudens during his occupancy that are set within a garden landscape. To the west are the 42.6-acre Blow-Me-Down Farm and the 40-acre Blow-Me-Down Mill, part of the seasonal estate of Charles Cotesworth Beaman Jr., who with Saint-Gaudens established the Cornish Colony. To the east is the 6.5-acre Saint-Gaudens Farm property, purchased by Augustus Saint-Gaudens and his wife, Augusta, between 1904 and 1910.

Aspet:

Set in an open landscape that offers views to distant Mount Ascutney, the main house and studios of Augustus Saint-Gaudens are surrounded by a series of garden rooms defined by distinctive evergreen hedges, including a formal perennial garden and a birch grove. The classically-inspired landscape designed by Saint-Gaudens during his twenty-two year residence is representative of a popular design style from the turn-of-the-twentieth century. Several prominent sculptural works of Augustus Saint-Gaudens are on display in the landscape.

Blow-Me-Down Farm:

Formerly owned by two generations of the Beaman family beginning in 1882, this farm property still retains its rural setting that was enjoyed by Saint-Gaudens and other members of the Cornish Colony. A system of gravel driveways extend from the highway and loop amongst the farm buildings informally arranged on the eastern part of the property. The original mansion here burned in 1926, but a residence that was formerly a casino and the dance hall building remain, as do a historic cottage and garage, a large bank barn, and other outbuildings that together contributed to Beaman's rustic vision for his gentleman's farm. Fields in the south and west areas of the property slope down to the river and are still cultivated, and comprise the foreground of scenic views of the valley and the distant mountains that inspired the colony's artists and Beaman's many visitors.

Blow-Me-Down Mill:

This property includes the late-nineteenth-century built features of the Blow-Me-Down Mill and dam, the stone arch bridge, a mill pond, and several acres of natural wetland situated along the Blow-Me-Down Brook and surrounded by forest vegetation. State Route 12A travels along the west

side of the property, providing views to the wetland and mill building to passing motorists.

Saint-Gaudens Farm:

The Saint-Gaudens Farm property is situated on the south side of Saint Gaudens Road, less than a quarter mile uphill from Aspet. It includes a farmhouse, large barn complex, two-car garage, and a small pond and stream. The property also features hay fields that extend beyond the parcel to the east, providing open views to adjacent farmland.

HISTORICAL OVERVIEW

The physical development of each component landscape is as unique as the properties themselves. See the respective CLI reports for a historical overview of the four component landscapes of Saint-Gaudens NHS.

SIGNIFICANCE SUMMARY

The four component landscapes lie within the Saint-Gaudens NHS Historic District, for which documentation was updated in 2013. The historic district derives its primary significance under National Register Criterion B at the national level as the summer and later year-round home of sculptor Augustus Saint-Gaudens during the peak of his productive career from 1885 to 1907. The historic district is also significant under criteria A, C, and D in the areas of art, conservation, architecture, and archeology. Under Criterion A, the district is nationally significant in the area of art for its associations with the Cornish Colony, initially formed by a group of artists, designers, and other influential urbanites who perpetuated the American Renaissance movement throughout the nation. It also possesses state-level significance under Criterion A in the area of conservation for the preservation of his work at his Cornish estate by the Augustus Saint-Gaudens Memorial. Under Criterion C, the district is significant at the state level in the area of landscape design for its representation of the work of Ellen Shipman, a colony member who integrated the Italian garden design paradigms of landscape architect Charles Adams Platt in her refinement of Saint-Gaudens's Aspet property. It also possesses local significance under Criterion C in the area of architecture for its expression of Classical Revival design that emerged as a nationally prominent architectural style during the late nineteenth and early twentieth century, as well as for its intact collection of small-scale domestic and agricultural buildings that exemplify regionally significant building types and the construction of buildings from kits that originated from nationally circulated catalogs. Under Criterion D, the district is nationally significant in the area of archeology for its realized ability to contribute substantive information about structural, functional, and production-related aspects of Saint-Gaudens' former workshop and studio. It also possesses state-level significance under Criterion D through the potential to yield substantive archeological data about pre- and post-contact period settlement and land use patterns in the upper Connecticut River valley. Collections of artwork, molds and casts, farming implements, memorabilia, photographs, and family papers maintained at the Saint-Gaudens NHS contribute to the national significance of the district.

The period of significance for the historic district begins in 1884 when Charles Cotesworth Beaman, Jr. purchased the property later known as Aspet, and ends in 1950 when the Saint-Gaudens Memorial had achieved the majority of their physical improvements.

ANALYSIS AND EVALUATION SUMMARY AND CONDITION

The Saint-Gaudens NHS Historic District retains historic integrity in all seven categories and is expressive of a preserved, rural, artistic retreat. The district retains the key components of its historic setting that attracted artists to the area, such as its location on the Connecticut River, mountain views, and bucolic landscape. Recreational trails and natural features dating to the Cornish Colony occupation are extant. Recent forest growth does not detract from the historic natural setting and significant open views are maintained. The lack of development in Cornish contributes to the unimpeded rural character of the district. (National Register, draft 2013: 22)

With the completion of the final two component landscape CLI reports in 2013 (two reports were completed in 2010), the overall condition of the Saint-Gaudens NHS Landscape is considered to be “good” because three of the four component landscapes are in good condition. In 2010, the condition of the Aspet landscape was evaluated as good, while the Blow-Me-Down Mill landscape was evaluated as fair. In 2013, both the Blow-Me-Down Farm and Saint-Gaudens Farm landscapes were evaluated as good.

Site Plan

Saint-Gaudens NHS Landscape
Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site



Overview map of Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site. For detailed site maps, see the CLI reports for the four component landscapes of Saint-Gaudens NHS. (Olmsted Center for

Landscape Preservation—hereafter OCLP—2013)

Property Level and CLI Numbers

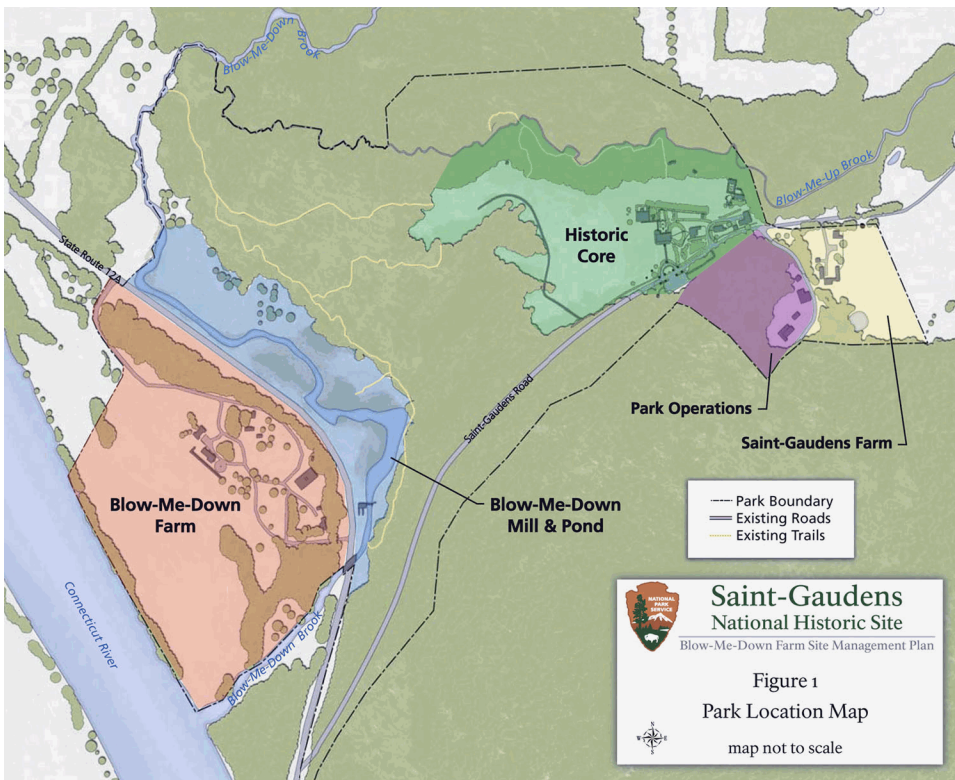
Inventory Unit Name:	Saint-Gaudens NHS Landscape
Property Level:	Landscape
CLI Identification Number:	650051
Parent Landscape:	650051

Park Information

Park Name and Alpha Code:	Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site -SAGA
Park Organization Code:	1915
Park Administrative Unit:	Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site

CLI Hierarchy Description

Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site (190.75 acres) contains four component landscapes: Aspet (101.65 acres), Blow-Me-Down Farm (42.6 acres), the Blow-Me-Down Mill (40.0 acres), and Saint-Gaudens Farm (6.5 acres).



Map showing the four component landscapes at the park. Note: the park operations area is part of the Aspet landscape (historic core and surrounding lands shaded green). (Blow-Me-Down Farm Site Management Plan and Environmental Assessment 2013, Ch.1: 3)

Concurrence Status

Inventory Status: Complete

Completion Status Explanatory Narrative:

The Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation completed CLIs for the Aspet and Blow-Me-Down Mill component landscapes within Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site in 2010. The Blow-Me-Down Farm and Saint-Gaudens Farm component landscapes were completed in 2013. With the completion of the park's four component landscapes, the Saint-Gaudens NHS Landscape (parent landscape) is therefore considered complete in 2013. The park's contact for cultural resources is Steve Walasewicz (603-675-2175 x 110, steve_walasewicz@nps.gov).

Concurrence Status:

Park Superintendent Concurrence:	Yes
Park Superintendent Date of Concurrence:	09/18/2013
National Register Concurrence:	Eligible -- SHPO Consensus Determination
Date of Concurrence Determination:	05/14/2013

National Register Concurrence Narrative:

On May 14, 2013, the New Hampshire SHPO commented and approved on updated National Register documentation for the Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site Historic District, which added resources at the Blow-Me-Down Farm property and Saint-Gaudens Farm property. The documentation identified significance for the historic district under National Register criteria A, B, C, and D in the areas of art, conservation, architecture, landscape architecture, and archeology. The period of significance was listed as 1884-1950.

Concurrence Graphic Information:

CULTURAL LANDSCAPES INVENTORY
CONCURRENCE FORM

Aspet
Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site

Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site concurs with the findings of the Cultural Landscape Inventory (CLI) for Aspet including the following specific components:

MANAGEMENT CATEGORY: Must Be Preserved and Maintained

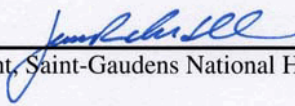
CONDITION ASSESSMENT: Good

Good: indicates the inventory unit shows no clear evidence of major negative disturbance and deterioration by natural and/or human forces. The inventory unit's cultural and natural values are as well preserved as can be expected under the given environmental conditions. No immediate corrective action is required to maintain its current condition.

Fair: indicates the inventory unit shows clear evidence of minor disturbances and deterioration by natural and/or human forces, and some degree of corrective action is needed within 3-5 years to prevent further harm to its cultural and/or natural values. If left to continue without the appropriate corrective action, the cumulative effect of the deterioration of many of the character defining elements will cause the inventory unit to degrade to a poor condition.

Poor: indicates the inventory unit shows clear evidence of major disturbance and rapid deterioration by natural and/or human forces. Immediate corrective action is required to protect and preserve the remaining historical and natural values.

The Cultural Landscape Inventory for Aspet is hereby approved and accepted.



Superintendent, Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site



Date

CULTURAL LANDSCAPES INVENTORY
CONCURRENCE FORM

Blow-Me-Down Mill
Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site

Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site concurs with the findings of the Cultural Landscape Inventory (CLI) for Blow-Me-Down Mill including the following specific components:

MANAGEMENT CATEGORY: Must Be Preserved and Maintained

CONDITION ASSESSMENT: Fair

Good: indicates the inventory unit shows no clear evidence of major negative disturbance and deterioration by natural and/or human forces. The inventory unit's cultural and natural values are as well preserved as can be expected under the given environmental conditions. No immediate corrective action is required to maintain its current condition.

Fair: indicates the inventory unit shows clear evidence of minor disturbances and deterioration by natural and/or human forces, and some degree of corrective action is needed within 3-5 years to prevent further harm to its cultural and/or natural values. If left to continue without the appropriate corrective action, the cumulative effect of the deterioration of many of the character defining elements will cause the inventory unit to degrade to a poor condition.

Poor: indicates the inventory unit shows clear evidence of major disturbance and rapid deterioration by natural and/or human forces. Immediate corrective action is required to protect and preserve the remaining historical and natural values.

The Cultural Landscape Inventory for Blow-Me-Down Mill is hereby approved and accepted.



Superintendent, Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site

8/4/10

Date

Saint-Gaudens NHS Landscape
Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site

CULTURAL LANDSCAPES INVENTORY
CONCURRENCE FORM

Blow-Me-Down Farm
Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site

Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site concurs with the findings of the Cultural Landscape Inventory (CLI) for Blow-Me-Down Farm including the following specific components:

MANAGEMENT CATEGORY: Must Be Preserved and Maintained

CONDITION ASSESSMENT: Good

Good: indicates the inventory unit shows no clear evidence of major negative disturbance and deterioration by natural and/or human forces. The inventory unit's cultural and natural values are as well preserved as can be expected under the given environmental conditions. No immediate corrective action is required to maintain its current condition.

Fair: indicates the inventory unit shows clear evidence of minor disturbances and deterioration by natural and/or human forces, and some degree of corrective action is needed within 3-5 years to prevent further harm to its cultural and/or natural values. If left to continue without the appropriate corrective action, the cumulative effect of the deterioration of many of the character defining elements will cause the inventory unit to degrade to a poor condition.

Poor: indicates the inventory unit shows clear evidence of major disturbance and rapid deterioration by natural and/or human forces. Immediate corrective action is required to protect and preserve the remaining historical and natural values.

The Cultural Landscape Inventory for Blow-Me-Down Farm is hereby approved and accepted.


Superintendent, Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site

9/18/13
Date

Saint-Gaudens NHS Landscape
Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site

CULTURAL LANDSCAPES INVENTORY
CONCURRENCE FORM

Saint-Gaudens Farm
Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site

Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site concurs with the findings of the Cultural Landscape Inventory (CLI) for Saint-Gaudens Farm including the following specific components:

MANAGEMENT CATEGORY: Must Be Preserved and Maintained

CONDITION ASSESSMENT: Good

Good: indicates the inventory unit shows no clear evidence of major negative disturbance and deterioration by natural and/or human forces. The inventory unit's cultural and natural values are as well preserved as can be expected under the given environmental conditions. No immediate corrective action is required to maintain its current condition.

Fair: indicates the inventory unit shows clear evidence of minor disturbances and deterioration by natural and/or human forces, and some degree of corrective action is needed within 3-5 years to prevent further harm to its cultural and/or natural values. If left to continue without the appropriate corrective action, the cumulative effect of the deterioration of many of the character defining elements will cause the inventory unit to degrade to a poor condition.

Poor: indicates the inventory unit shows clear evidence of major disturbance and rapid deterioration by natural and/or human forces. Immediate corrective action is required to protect and preserve the remaining historical and natural values.

The Cultural Landscape Inventory for Saint-Gaudens Farm is hereby approved and accepted.


Superintendent, Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site

9/8/13
Date

Concurrence forms for the four component landscapes that comprise the Saint-Gaudens NHS Landscape.

Geographic Information & Location Map

Inventory Unit Boundary Description:

The Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site Historic District boundary encompasses a total of 190.6 acres within the 279-acre authorized boundary of the Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site. It follows the current boundary of the NHS.

The 101.5 acre Aspet landscape is an irregularly-shaped parcel that includes a majority of the acreage associated with Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site. The area includes a narrow portion along the east side of State Route 12A, south of the junction of 12A and Saint Gaudens Road. Just east of the Stone Arch Bridge, the boundary moves to include the wooded land on both sides of Saint Gaudens

Road. The boundary follows the steep ravine on the west side of Blow-Me-Up Pond to a point along Blow-Me-Up-Brook north of the Aspet landscape. The boundary then turns east and follows the brook along the northern border of the park and turns ninety degrees south at the New Studio Complex. Running almost due south, the boundary meets Saint Gaudens Road, makes a slight jog to the east, and crosses the road to encompass the maintenance and curatorial area. This area is a roughly rectangular parcel on the south side of the road. The boundary continues along the south side of Saint Gaudens Road, encompassing the visitor parking lot and continues to the southeast side of 12A to the point of beginning.

Blow-Me-Down Farm is an irregular-shaped 42.6-acre parcel on the west side of New Hampshire State Route 12A and east of the Connecticut River within the Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site. The north boundary of the Blow-Me-Down Farm parcel boundary is north of the northern section of the driveway, the east boundary follows the west side of State Route 12A, the south boundary follows Blow-Me-Down Brook, and the west boundary follows the bank of the Connecticut River.

The 40-acre Blow-Me-Down Mill property is adjacent to the west boundary of the Aspet tract. Beginning at the Stone Arch Bridge, the boundary runs along the east side of the pond, past the dam, and mill and travels in a roughly northerly direction until meeting the Blow-Me-Up Brook. The boundary then meanders west and north along the brook until turning sharply south, following the brook until it runs into Route 12A. The property line follows Route 12A back to the point of beginning.

The Saint-Gaudens Farm is a trapezoidal shaped 6.5-acre parcel at 140 Saint Gaudens Road, south of the road and southeast of Aspet within the Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site. The Saint-Gaudens Farm parcel boundary follows Saint Gaudens Road to the north, a hedge row to the east, a fence line to the south, and the far bank of a stream to the west, which is a tributary of Blow-Me-Up Brook. The park maintenance and curatorial buildings are just to the west of Saint-Gaudens Farm and are included within the Aspet component landscape.

State and County:

State: NH

County: Sullivan County

Size (Acres): 190.75

Boundary UTMS:

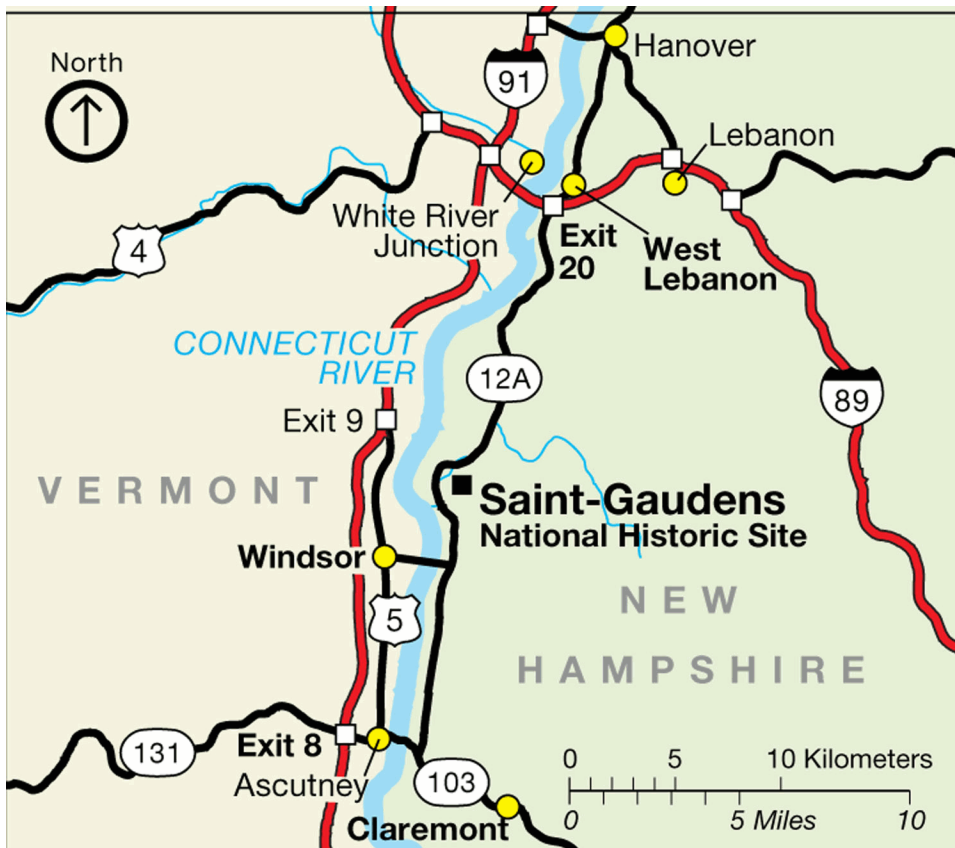
Boundary Source Narrative:	A.
Type of Point:	Area
Datum:	NAD 83
UTM Zone:	18
Boundary Source Narrative:	B.
Type of Point:	Area
Datum:	NAD 83
UTM Zone:	18
Boundary Source Narrative:	C.
Type of Point:	Area
Datum:	NAD 83
UTM Zone:	18
Boundary Source Narrative:	D.
Type of Point:	Area
Datum:	NAD 83
UTM Zone:	18
Boundary Source Narrative:	E.
Type of Point:	Area
Datum:	NAD 83
UTM Zone:	18
Boundary Source Narrative:	F.
Type of Point:	Area
Datum:	NAD 83
UTM Zone:	18
Boundary Source Narrative:	G.
Type of Point:	Area
Datum:	NAD 83
UTM Zone:	18

Boundary Source Narrative:	H.
Type of Point:	Area
Datum:	NAD 83
UTM Zone:	18
Boundary Source Narrative:	I.
Type of Point:	Area
Datum:	NAD 83
UTM Zone:	18
Boundary Source Narrative:	J.
Type of Point:	Area
Datum:	NAD 83
UTM Zone:	18
Boundary Source Narrative:	K.
Type of Point:	Area
Datum:	NAD 83
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Boundary Source Narrative:	L.
Type of Point:	Area
Datum:	NAD 83
UTM Zone:	18
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Type of Point:	Area
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UTM Zone:	18
Boundary Source Narrative:	O.

Type of Point:	Area
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UTM Zone:	18
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UTM Zone:	18
Boundary Source Narrative:	T.
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UTM Zone:	18
Boundary Source Narrative:	V.
Type of Point:	Area

Datum:	NAD 83
UTM Zone:	18
Boundary Source Narrative:	W.
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UTM Zone:	18
Boundary Source Narrative:	AA.
Type of Point:	Area
Datum:	NAD 83
UTM Zone:	18

Location Map:



Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site is located in Cornish, New Hampshire, within Sullivan County east of the Connecticut River. (Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site--hereafter SAGA-web site, 1996)

Management Information

General Management Information

Management Category: Must be Preserved and Maintained

Management Category Date: 09/18/2013

Management Category Explanatory Narrative:

The Saint-Gaudens NHS Landscape and its four component landscapes collectively meet the requirements of the management category, "Must Be Preserved and Maintained" because the property includes Aspet, which is nationally significant as defined by National Historic Landmark criteria. Aspet was designated a National Historic Landmark on June 13, 1962. The other component landscapes also meet the requirements because each is related to the park's legislated significance. The park's enabling legislation states that the park will "preserve, interpret, and exhibit historically significant properties associated with the life and cultural achievements of Augustus Saint-Gaudens."

NPS Legal Interest:

Type of Interest: Fee Simple

Public Access:

Type of Access: Other Restrictions

Explanatory Narrative:

The buildings at Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site are closed annually from November 1 to Memorial Day weekend. The grounds are open year round during daylight hours. The Aspet property, including the house and studios, are open to the public. The Blow-Me-Down Mill property is open to visitors except for the mill building, which is not open to the public. The Blow-Me-Down Farm property is currently not open except for infrequent special events or guided tours, and is not staffed. However, occasional sculpture workshops, educational programs, trainings, and meetings are held on the property. Saint-Gaudens Farm property is not open to the public. The farmhouse is used for seasonal park housing and the barn complex is used for storage of maintenance tools and equipment.

National Register Information

Existing National Register Status

National Register Landscape Documentation:

SHPO Documented

National Register Explanatory Narrative:

The Saint-Gaudens Farm property became part of Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site (NHS) in 2000, but the historical significance of other resources at the park has been previously documented. On June 13, 1962, Aspet, the home, studios, and gardens of American sculptor Augustus Saint-Gaudens, was designated a National Historic Landmark (NHL) under the name Saint-Gaudens Memorial for Theme XX, Arts and Sciences, and the subtheme, Sculpture and Painting. NHL Historian Patty Henry determined the period of significance for the NHL begins in 1884 when Saint-Gaudens took up seasonal residence in Cornish and extends to 1907 when he died (a discrepancy exists with the start date, as Saint-Gaudens began coming to Cornish in 1885). The 83-acre Aspet property, and three additional acres, were authorized as Saint-Gaudens NHS on August 31, 1964 and administratively listed without documentation in the National Register of Historic Places on October 15, 1966 with passage of the National Historic Preservation Act.

National Register documentation for the park was accepted by the Keeper of the National Register on November 15, 1985, and in addition to resources at Aspet included several resources at the Blow-Me-Down Mill property, which was acquired by the park in 1984. The areas of significance identified in the documentation were art and sculpture as the home and work space of Augustus Saint-Gaudens (1848-1907), one of the preeminent American sculptors of the late 1800s and early 1900s. Specific dates of importance noted in the documentation were c.1795, presumably for the date of construction of the house (Aspet) (research now indicates the house was built in 1817), and 1893-1894, a portion of the time period when the Saint-Gaudens family significantly altered the house. However, the period of significance did not include the construction dates of the mill or Blow-Me-Down bridge.

The National Park Service and the New Hampshire State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) entered into a cooperative agreement in 1994 to prepare a Multiple Property Documentation Form (MPDF) for the Cornish Colony, which included Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site. A draft MPDF was prepared and proposed significance for five properties in Cornish and Plainfield, New Hampshire, mentioning the role of seventy-one artists, authors, actors, critics, and patrons of the arts. The MPDF proposed significance under Criterion A as one of the earliest artists' colonies in the United States. The period of significance identified for this context is 1885 to 1930, the period between the arrival of the first colonist, Augustus Saint-Gaudens, and the end of the community's active period. The MPDF remains in draft.

On July 3, 1996, as part of an update to the National Park Service's List of Classified Structures (LCS), the National Park Service received concurrence from the New Hampshire SHPO on twenty-nine previously documented resources and other previously undocumented contributing resources at the park. On September 30, 2009, an additional thirteen resources were determined eligible for the National Register by the New Hampshire SHPO based on a subsequent update to the

LCS. At this time, the New Hampshire SHPO also concurred on the areas and periods of significance presented in a 1998 draft update of the park's National Register documentation, which incorporated findings from the draft Cornish Colony MPDF and the Cultural Landscape Report for Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site, Volume 1 (1993). Significance was identified in the areas of art for the Cornish Colony (1884-1930), conservation and the role of the historic preservation movement in New Hampshire (1919-1950), and landscape architecture for Augustus Saint-Gaudens's designed landscape at Aspet (1885-1907). The 1998 National Register update remained in draft while the park underwent a substantial boundary expansion, which was finalized in November 2000, encompassing the Saint-Gaudens Farm and Blow-Me-Down Farm properties.

On May 14, 2013, the New Hampshire SHPO commented and approved on updated National Register documentation for the Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site Historic District, which added resources at the Blow-Me-Down Farm property and Saint-Gaudens Farm property. The documentation identified significance for the historic district under National Register criteria A, B, C, and D in the areas of art, conservation, architecture, landscape architecture, and archeology. The period of significance was listed as 1884-1950, beginning when Charles Cotesworth Beaman, Jr., who helped establish the Cornish Colony, took up summer residence at Blow-Me-Down Farm, and ending around the time when the Saint-Gaudens Memorial had accomplished a majority of their physical improvements. Key dates included 1884, when Charles Beaman arrived in Cornish and purchased the Aspet parcel; 1885 to 1907, when Augustus Saint-Gaudens occupied and subsequently purchased the property; and 1919, when the Saint-Gaudens Memorial was established. Contributing resources identified at Saint-Gaudens Farm included the Farm House, Barn Complex, Gravel Driveway, Garage, and the grounds of the 6.5-acre site, including the domestic yard and tree lines.

According to research conducted for this CLI and the categories of National Register documentation outlined in the "CLI Professional Procedures Guide," the areas and periods of significance for Saint-Gaudens NHS has been adequately documented in the National Register and through previous consultations with the New Hampshire SHPO, which describe the park's numerous historic resources that contribute to its significance. Therefore, for purposes of the CLI, the Saint-Gaudens NHS Landscape and its component landscapes are considered "SHPO-Documented."

Existing NRIS Information:

Name in National Register:	Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site
NRIS Number:	66000120
Primary Certification Date:	11/15/1985

National Register Eligibility

National Register Concurrence:	Eligible -- SHPO Consensus Determination
Contributing/Individual:	Individual
National Register Classification:	District
Significance Level:	National

Significance Criteria: A - Associated with events significant to broad patterns of our history
Significance Criteria: B - Associated with lives of persons significant in our past
Significance Criteria: C - Embodies distinctive construction, work of master, or high artistic values
Significance Criteria: D - Has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important to prehistory or history

Area of Significance:

Area of Significance Category:	Art
Area of Significance Subcategory:	None
Area of Significance Category:	Conservation
Area of Significance Subcategory:	None
Area of Significance Category:	Architecture
Area of Significance Subcategory:	None
Area of Significance Category:	Landscape Architecture
Area of Significance Subcategory:	None
Area of Significance Category:	Archeology
Area of Significance Subcategory:	Historic-Non-Aboriginal

Statement of Significance:

As stated in the park's 2013 National Register documentation, the Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site (NHS) Historic District is significant under National Register criteria A, B, C, and D. The historic district derives its primary significance under Criterion B at the national level in the area of art, as the summer and later year-round home of sculptor Augustus Saint-Gaudens during the peak of his productive career from 1885 to 1907. Saint-Gaudens (1848-1907) rose to national prominence as one

of the preeminent American sculptors of the Gilded Era and completed several major commissions in the studio at his Cornish property. The park itself is a physical expression of Saint-Gaudens's classically inspired aesthetic ideals and includes a temple monument containing his ashes. (National Register, draft 2013: 31)

The historic district meets Criterion A at the national level for its associations with the Cornish Colony, initially formed by a group of artists, designers, and other influential urbanites who perpetuated the American Renaissance movement throughout the nation. The relationships among colony members—from Saint-Gaudens, to architects Joseph Wells and Stanford White, to painter Thomas Dewing, to landscape architect Charles Adams Platt—elevated their careers through frequent collaboration and influenced American appreciation for the arts. The importance of Saint-Gaudens's work inspired the preservation of his Cornish estate by the Augustus Saint-Gaudens Memorial, and the district's commemorative history from 1919-1950 satisfies Criterion A at the state level in the area of conservation. (National Register, draft 2013: 31)

Under Criterion C, the district possesses significance at the state level in the area of landscape design for its representation of the work of Ellen Shipman, a colony member who integrated the Italian garden design paradigms of landscape architect Charles Adams Platt in her refinement of Saint-Gaudens's Aspet property. The district derives significance under Criterion C at the local level in the area of architecture for its expression of Classical Revival design, which emerged as a nationally prominent architectural style during the late nineteenth and early twentieth century. The district also meets Criterion C at the local level for its intact collection of small-scale domestic and agricultural buildings that exemplify regionally significant building types and the construction of buildings from kits that originated from nationally circulated catalogs. (National Register, draft 2013: 31)

The historic district derives national significance under Criterion D in the area of archeology for its realized ability to contribute substantive information about structural, functional, and production-related aspects of Saint-Gaudens' former workshop and studio. State-level significance under Criterion D is met through the potential of the district to yield substantive archeological data about pre- and post-contact period settlement and land use patterns in the upper Connecticut River valley. Collections of artwork, molds and casts, farming implements, memorabilia, photographs, and family papers maintained at the Saint-Gaudens NHS contribute to the national significance of the district. (National Register, draft 2013: 31)

The period of significance for the Saint-Gaudens NHS extends from 1884 to 1950. The period begins in 1884 when Charles Cotesworth Beaman, Jr. took up summer residence at Blow-Me-Down Farm in Cornish. The following year, Beaman convinced his friend, the renowned American sculptor Augustus Saint-Gaudens, to make the area his summer residence. The years that Saint-Gaudens lived and worked at the property he named Aspet extended from 1885 until his death in 1907, and represent the period during which the district achieved its primary national significance under Criterion B in the area of art. Beaman and Saint-Gaudens were instrumental in attracting a number of other respected artists to settle in the area leading to the establishment of the Cornish Colony. The district derives its national significance under Criterion A in the area of art from its position as the nexus of the group's social

activities. The district's state-level significance under Criterion A in the area of conservation began in 1919 with the formation of the Saint-Gaudens Memorial, which was established to promote Saint-Gaudens' legacy through the preservation of the Aspet property. In 1927, the heirs of the Beaman and Saint-Gaudens estates began transferring land to the Saint-Gaudens Memorial. By that time, the activities of the Cornish Colony had declined and over the next 20 years key members died or gradually sold off their estates. That transition was largely complete by 1950, the date representing the end of the district's period of significance. (National Register, draft 2013: 30)

For detailed information on National Register significance, see the CLI reports for the four component landscapes of the Saint-Gaudens NHS.

Chronology & Physical History

Cultural Landscape Type and Use

Cultural Landscape Type: Designed
Vernacular

Current and Historic Use/Function:

Primary Historic Function: Estate Landscape
Primary Current Use: Historic Furnished Interior

Current and Historic Names:

Name	Type of Name
Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site	Current

Chronology:

Year	Event	Annotation
CE 1884 - 1950	Developed	For a comprehensive chronology, see the CLI reports for the four component landscapes of the Saint-Gaudens NHS.

Physical History:

For a comprehensive physical history, see the CLI reports for the four component landscapes of the Saint-Gaudens NHS.

Analysis & Evaluation of Integrity

Analysis and Evaluation of Integrity Narrative Summary:

The Saint-Gaudens NHS retains historic integrity in all seven categories and is expressive of a preserved, rural, artistic retreat. The district retains the key components of its historic setting that attracted artists to the area, such as its location on the Connecticut River, mountain views, and bucolic landscape. Recreational trails and natural features dating to the Cornish Colony occupation are extant. Recent forest growth does not detract from the historic natural setting and significant open views are maintained. The lack of development in Cornish contributes to the unimpeded rural character of the district. (National Register, draft 2013: 22)

Several buildings and examples of design work associated with Augustus Saint-Gaudens during his active use of the property are extant. Spatial relationships between buildings and an overarching Classical Revival aesthetic as envisioned by Saint-Gaudens are maintained. Buildings and landscapes have been restored as necessary but retain a substantial portion of their original materials and clearly express the original design intent. Historic updates to the Aspet landscape completed by Ellen Shipman are consistent with Saint-Gaudens's and George Fletcher Babb's original designs. Buildings added to the site following Saint-Gaudens's death are screened from view or designed to be compatible with the existing buildings. Many of Saint-Gaudens's original plaster sculpture casts and studies as well as some finished works are maintained on site and all modern casts created for display purposes are exact replicas of his designs. The farm properties adjacent to Aspet retain a rural quality. Buildings, structures, and objects designed by members of McKim, Mead & White, including those on Blow-Me-Down Farm, are extant and expressive of the Classical Revival style. All of the properties within the district evoke a feeling of rural late-nineteenth to early-twentieth century retreats. The park's use of Aspet carries on the traditions of commemoration and interpretation initiated by the Saint-Gaudens Memorial. (National Register, draft 2013: 22)

For a detailed analysis of integrity for the four component landscapes of the Saint-Gaudens NHS, see the CLI reports.

Landscape Characteristic:

For a comprehensive analysis of landscape characteristics and features, see the CLIs for the four component landscapes of the Saint-Gaudens NHS.

Condition

Condition Assessment and Impacts

Condition Assessment: Good

Assessment Date: 09/18/2013

Condition Assessment Explanatory Narrative:

The overall condition of the Saint-Gaudens NHS Landscape is considered to be “good” because three of the four component landscapes are in good condition. In 2010, the condition of the Aspet landscape was evaluated as good, while the Blow-Me-Down Mill landscape was evaluated as fair. In 2013, both the Blow-Me-Down Farm and Saint-Gaudens Farm landscapes were evaluated as good.

A condition of good indicates there is no evidence of major negative disturbance or deterioration by natural and/or human forces. The cultural and natural values are as well preserved as can be expected under the given environmental conditions. No immediate corrective action is required to maintain its current condition.

Treatment

Treatment

Approved Treatment: Undetermined

Approved Treatment Document Explanatory Narrative:

Treatment recommendations have been developed for several sites. See the CLIs for the four component landscapes of the Saint-Gaudens NHS for more information.

Approved Treatment Completed: No

Bibliography and Supplemental Information

Bibliography

Citation Author: See below.

Citation Title: For a full bibliography, see the CLIs for the four component landscapes of the Saint-Gaudens NHS for more information.